

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

10/533801
JC17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 04 MAY 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original) A cartridge (1) operative for expulsion of a projectile from a reusable shell case formed with a cartridge-seat (4) that is connected with a low-pressure chamber (6) via an opening (I) through a front wall (5) of the cartridge-seat, the cartridge having a primer (2) and containing a propellant charge (3) in a cylindrical container that is dimensioned to be form-fitted into the cartridge-seat, characterized by a separate insert (7) inserted in a front end portion of the cartridge, the insert (7) having a passage (8) going there through operating as a constriction for combustion gases flowing into the low-pressure chamber, the insert having a forward shoulder (10) that is forced into sealing contact with the front wall (5) of the cartridge-seat upon ignition of the propellant charge, thus preventing combustions gases from leaking over the envelope surface of the insert (7).

2. (original) The cartridge of claim 1, wherein the insert (7) has a cylindrical portion (9) insertable into the forward end of the cartridge, the outer diameter of said portion (9) sealing against the cartridge, and a cylindrical portion (11) protruding there from and dimensioned to be received in the opening (I) through the wall (5) of the cartridge-seat, a shoulder (10) radially extended between the two portions (9 and 11), and an axial passage (8) going there through, the diameter of which is dimensioned for delaying the exiting combustion gases.

3. (original) The cartridge of claim 1, wherein the insert is formed from a material of less hardness than the cartridge-seat to be deformable for sealing contact with the forward wall (5) of the cartridge-seat.

4. (original) The cartridge of claim 3, wherein the insert is made of copper, copper alloy, aluminum or other light metal.

5. (currently amended) The cartridge of ~~any previous~~ claim 1, wherein a membrane (12) is attached to an inner end of the insert (7), sealing the passage (8).

6. (currently amended) The cartridge of ~~any previous~~ claim 1, characterized in that the insert (7) initially is depressed into the cartridge (1) only to a depth that gives the cartridge an oversized axial length with respect to the cartridge-seat (4).

7. (new) The cartridge of claim 2, wherein a membrane (12) is attached to an inner end of the insert (7), sealing the passage (8).

8. (new) The cartridge of claim 3, wherein a membrane (12) is attached to an inner end of the insert (7), sealing the passage (8).

9. (new) The cartridge of claim 4, wherein a membrane (12) is attached to an inner end of the insert (7), sealing the passage (8).

10. (new) The cartridge of claim 2, characterized in that the insert (7) initially is depressed into the cartridge (1)

only to a depth that gives the cartridge an oversized axial length with respect to the cartridge-seat (4).

11. (new) The cartridge of claim 3, characterized in that the insert (7) initially is depressed into the cartridge (1) only to a depth that gives the cartridge an oversized axial length with respect to the cartridge-seat (4).

12. (new) The cartridge of claim 4, characterized in that the insert (7) initially is depressed into the cartridge (1) only to a depth that gives the cartridge an oversized axial length with respect to the cartridge-seat (4).

13. (new) The cartridge of claim 5, characterized in that the insert (7) initially is depressed into the cartridge (1) only to a depth that gives the cartridge an oversized axial length with respect to the cartridge-seat (4).